

MARINES UNIT BREAKDOWN

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MARINE DEPLOYMENTS WORLDWIDE – America’s ‘911 force’ travels the globe, training for any mission, fighting for freedom and answering the nation’s call.



Major Installations:

- East Coast**
- Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany, Ga.
 - Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, N.C.
 - Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, N.C.
 - Marine Corps Air Station New River, N.C.
 - Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort, S.C.
 - Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, S.C.
 - Headquarters Marine Corps, Wash.
 - Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va.

Major Installations:

- West Coast**
- Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif.
 - Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, Calif.
 - Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif.
 - Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif.
 - Marine Corps Air-Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, Calif.
 - Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Ariz.
 - Outside CONUS**
 - Marine Corps Base Hawaii

Major Installations:

- Far East**
- Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan
 - Marine Corps Air Station Futenma, Okinawa, Japan
 - Marine Corps Bases Okinawa, Japan

THE MARINE CORPS ORGANIZES expeditionary units for military missions into Marine Air-Ground Task Forces. A MAGTF is tailored to meet the specific needs of a given mission, but there are always four principle elements to its structure — the command element, ground combat element, aviation combat element and a combat service support element. The Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable), the smallest MAGTF, is the quick reaction force forward deployed as part of an Expeditionary Strike Group. MEUs operate continuously in assigned areas of responsibility throughout the world. They provide a variety of sea-based, crisis response options in either conventional amphibious/expeditionary roles

or in the execution of maritime special operations. The MEU deploys with 15 days of accompanying supplies. To become “Special Operations Capable,” a MEU undergoes an intensive six-month training program. The SOC certification allows a MEU’s Marines to conduct missions like humanitarian assistance operations and tactical recovery of aircraft and personnel. The next step up from the MEU is the mid-sized Marine Expeditionary Brigade. It provides transitional capabilities between the forward-deployed MEU and the larger Marine Expeditionary Force. As the need for a stronger military presence increases, a MEB can integrate with a MEU to build upon its established pre-positioned elements. The MEB would then take command of the operation with the

MEU under its umbrella of control. Equipped with 30 days of supplies, a MEB can conduct amphibious assaults and sustained operations ashore in any geographic environment. The Marine Expeditionary Force is the Corps’ largest MAGTF. There are MEFs in place during peacetime and wartime, based on the West and East coasts and in the Far East. It is from the MEF that the smaller MAGTF is drawn, however, the MEF too deploys during larger crises or contingencies. A MEF is equipped with 60 days of supplies for sustained operations and can penetrate far inland.

The Maritime Prepositioning Force further extends the sustained operations capabilities of the MAGTF. The MPF consists of 16 ships split into three squadrons, based in the Mediterranean, Diego Garcia and the Guam-Saipan areas. The MPF ships, patrolling their assigned areas, transport and offload their equipment and supplies to where the MAGTF most needs it, extending operations another 30 days. MAGTFs provide the flexibility that allows a rapid response to any situation when the nation calls. **M**

Jan. 4, 2004

North Korea invites an American team — to include a nuclear expert, congressional aides, and a former state department member — to visit its nuclear site at Yongbyon.

Jan. 9, 2004

The largest movement of U.S. forces since World War II begins. About 125,000 service members deployed to Iraq leave the country, replaced with fewer armed forces, including more National Guard and Reserve units. Troops are also being rotated in Kuwait and Afghanistan.

Jan. 14, 2004

USS Boxer departs San Diego for the Central Command area of responsibility in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom II force rotation. More than 200 Marines and 900 sailors embarked aboard Boxer are providing amphibious lift for a portion of the equipment and personnel from the I Marine Expeditionary Force.

Jan. 18, 2004

President Bush details the goals of a new space exploration program, which includes a permanent lunar station and a manned mission to Mars.



Denotes locations of Marine Corps Bases and Major Installations. For more about Marine Corps Bases, see “Base Life” on page 34 and “Home Training” on page 42.



Denotes countries where the Marine Corps has conducted operations in support of the Global War on Terror and other missions. For more about Marine Corps operations abroad, see “Back in Iraq” on page 4 and “Other Hot Spots” on page 16.



Denotes countries that participated in training operations with the Marine Corps. For more about Marine Corps training exercises abroad, see “Exercises Around the World” on page 22.



Jan. 5, 2004

Marines and sailors of the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) aboard USS Germantown arrive at Manda Bay Naval Base, Kenya, to kick off Exercise Edged Mallet.

Jan. 17, 2004

Marines from 2nd Fleet Anti-Terrorism Security Team Company, 7th Platoon, visit Iwo Jima to commemorate the anniversary of the battle that played a pivotal role in the Corps’ history.

Afghanistan



Communism was introduced to Afghanistan in 1979 when the Soviet Union invaded. Anti-Communist mujahidin forces pushed the Soviet Union out 10 years later but communism remained, until its collapse in Kabul in 1992.

Subsequent fighting broke out among the various mujahidin factions, which gave rise to the Taliban ultimately seizing power in 1996.

United States, Allied, and Northern Alliance military action toppled the Taliban in December 2001. Hamid Karzai was elected president by secret ballot of the Transitional Islamic State of Afghanistan in June 2002 and a constitution for the country was signed Jan. 16, 2004.

In addition to occasionally violent political jockeying and ongoing military action to root out remaining terrorists and Taliban elements, the country suffers from enormous poverty, a lack of skilled and educated workers, a crumbling infrastructure, and widespread land mines.

U.S. troops remain to help rebuild the country's infrastructure and seek out any remaining terrorist elements. The 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable), reinforced with some Army units and designated as Task Force Linebacker was in country from March to July 2004 in the Oruzgan province, birthplace of Taliban leader Mullah Omar and a long-time stronghold of anti-coalition militia activity. Marines from the 3rd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, are currently in Afghanistan as part of Combined Joint Task Force Thunder.

A reinforced CH-53 squadron, with additional AH-1W Cobras and UH-1N Hueys, is operating out of Bagram as well.

- Afghanistan Statistics:**
- Slightly smaller than Texas
 - Population of 28,513,677 (July 2004 est.)
 - No coastline
 - Climate arid to semiarid
 - Terrain mostly rugged mountains with plains in the north and southwest

- 22nd MEU (SOC) in Afghanistan:**
- Conducted 12 named combat and civil military operations in the Oruzgan and Zabol provinces
 - Killed 101 enemy fighters
 - About 100 enemy fighters taken into coalition custody
 - Confiscated 2,500 weapons
 - Confiscated 80,000 pieces of ammunition or ordnance
 - Treated more than 2,000 medical and dental patients
 - Registered about 58,000 Afghan citizens to vote in the historic upcoming elections
 - Completed or began 108 civil affairs projects

▼ Jan. 20, 2004
In the Democratic Party's Iowa caucuses for the Democratic Party's nominations for the presidential election, John Kerry places first, winning 37.7 percent of votes, followed by John Edwards with 31.8 percent and Howard Dean, with 18 percent.

Djibouti



Djibouti is strategically important because of its location at the entrance to the Bab al Mandeb, a strait between the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden, and as a transshipment location for goods entering and leaving the east African highlands. The country's close ties with France and pro-Western orientation afforded the United States access to Djibouti's support facilities during Operation Enduring Freedom.

The Combined Joint Task Force – Horn of Africa operates from Camp Lemonier in Djibouti. There are more than 1,800 CJTF-HOA personnel in country, representing all branches of the U.S. armed services, coalition military members and civilian personnel.

- Djibouti Statistics:**
- Slightly smaller than Massachusetts
 - Population of 466,900 (July 2004 est.)
 - 195 miles of coastline
 - Desert climate, torrid and dry
 - Terrain coastal plain and plateau separated by central mountains

- Marines currently in Djibouti:**
- Combined Joint Task Force – Horn of Africa commanding general is Marine Brig. Gen. Samuel T. Helland
 - Combined Joint Task Force – Horn of Africa sergeant major is Marine Sgt. Maj. Bruce J. Poland
 - Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 461 Det. B (Reinforced)
 - K Co., 3rd Bn., 2nd Marines

Haiti



Columbus discovered Hispaniola in 1492 and the original inhabitants were virtually annihilated by Spanish settlers within 25 years. The French established a presence there in the 17th century, and Spain ceded Haiti, the western third of the island, to the French in 1697, who imported large numbers of African slaves to support its commerce. Toussaint L'Ouverture led Haiti's nearly half million slaves to revolt in the late 18th century, and Haiti became the first black republic to declare its independence in 1804. The poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, Haiti has been plagued by political violence for most of its history.

Early in 2004 three forces, the government headed by President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, an opposition who want Aristide to resign, and rebels forces not allied with the opposition who also seek Aristide's removal, continue to disrupt the country with political unrest. In February 2004, rebel leaders captured Cap-Haitien, Haiti's second-largest city. Within a day, the first Marines were in country to protect the U.S. Embassy. When Aristide left the country in late April, Marines were sent

▼ Jan. 22, 2004
Richard Causey, the former top accountant of the energy corporation Enron charged with fraud and conspiracy, is arrested. Enron went bankrupt two years ago.

▲ Jan. 24, 2004
Mars Exploration Rover Opportunity lands in Meridiani Planum on Mars.

as first phase of an interim international force to help stabilize Haiti after the weeks of fighting.

- Haiti Statistics:**
- Slightly smaller than Maryland
 - Population of 7,656,166 (July 2004 est.)
 - 1,065 miles of coastline
 - Climate tropical but semiarid where eastern mountains cut off trade winds
 - Terrain mostly rough and mountainous

- Marines in Haiti:**
- 50 Marines of a Fleet Anti-Terrorism Support Team arrive at Port-au-Prince Feb. 23, 2004, to protect the U.S. Embassy and its staff
 - 8th Marines, 2nd Marine Division, based at Camp Lejeune, N.C., deploy to Haiti in early March 2004
 - Combined Joint Task Force – Haiti officially activated March 15, Marine Brig. Gen. Ronald S. Coleman assumes command of the Multi-national Interim Force
 - Marine Light/Attack Helicopter Squadron-269, based in New River, N.C., deployed to Haiti March 3, 2004
 - 3rd Bn., 8th Marines, begins returning to the United States June 14, 2004
 - Marines and sailors from Combat Service Support Det. 20 depart Haiti for the United States June 20, 2004
 - Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 264 returns to New River from Haiti June 19-20, 2004
 - Most of the Marines of the task force leave by the end of June 2004

Iraq



Occupied by Great Britain during World War I, Iraq became an independent country in 1932. It was proclaimed a republic in 1958, but has been ruled by a series of military strongmen, ending with Saddam Hussein.

The country's invasion of Kuwait in August 1990 led to Desert Shield/Desert Storm, ending in Iraq's expulsion from Kuwait in early 1991. In March 2003, a United States-led invasion of Iraq ousted the Hussein regime. Sovereignty was returned to the Iraqi people in June 2004, although Coalition forces remain in the country helping to rebuild the infrastructure. For more about Marine operations in Iraq, see "Back in Iraq" on page 4.

- Iraq Statistics:**
- More than twice the size of Idaho
 - Population of 25,374,691 (July 2004 est.)
 - 36 miles of coastline
 - Mostly desert climate
 - Terrain mostly broad plains with reedy marshes along the Iran border and mountains along the Iran and Turkey borders

- Marines currently in Iraq:**
- 30,000 Marines are in the Iraq/Kuwait region
 - Two-thirds of 1st Marine Division troops currently in

▼ Jan. 25, 2004
More than 170 Marines and Sailors from III Marine Expeditionary Force arrive at Camp Asaka, Japan, a Japanese Ground Self Defense Force camp on the outskirts of Tokyo, to participate in Exercise Yama Sakura, the largest bilateral exercise conducted in Japan.



- Iraq took part in OIF in 2003
- 1st Force Service Support Group handled more than 8 million pounds of mail from March 15 to July 31, 2004, for I Marine Expeditionary Force Marines in Iraq

Liberia



Freed U.S. slaves founded Liberia, which means "land of the free," in 1820.

A coup in 1980 overset the government of the Republic of Liberia, eventually leading to the 1989-1996 civil war, which killed more than 200,000 Liberians. The war-torn country's continued unrest has slowed the process of rebuilding. Charles Taylor won the 1997 presidential elections but was never able to eliminate rebel groups. He abdicated in August 2003, after rebel attacks on Monrovia, and a two-year UN-imposed sanction for his involvement in neighboring Sierra Leone's civil war.

A transitional government, composed of rebel, government, and civil society groups, assumed control in October 2003. Chairman Gyude Bryant heads the new government. Marines went into Liberia in July 2003 after fighting between government and rebel forces reached the capitol's diplomatic section, which includes the U.S. Embassy.

- Liberia Statistics:**
- Slightly larger than Tennessee
 - Population of 3,390,635 (July 2004 est.)
 - 359 miles of coastline
 - Climate tropical, hot, humid. Dry winters with frequent heavy showers in summer
 - Terrain mostly flat to rolling coastal plains, rising to rolling plateaus and low mountains in northeast

- Marines in Liberia:**
- Aug. 6, 2003, a team of roughly 7 Marines inserts into Monrovia, Liberia to provide logistical support to Nigerian peacekeepers
 - Aug. 14, 2003, elements of the 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit began to land in Monrovia. These are the first of some 200 Marines that are to operate in Liberia
 - About 150 Marines from the 26th MEU depart Liberia Aug. 24, 2003
 - About 50 Marines, based out of U.S. Naval Station Rota, Spain, are to remain at the embassy in Monrovia as security

Information for all countries pulled from the CIA World Factbook at <http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/>.

▼ Jan. 30, 2004
Reserve Marines of Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 49 in Newburgh, N.Y., are part of the more than 20,000 Marines heading back to Iraq and Afghanistan over the next several weeks.

▲ Feb 10, 2004
The United States appoints a permanent envoy to Libya.